

ASSESSING RESULTS OF STATEWIDE ECONOMIC PRIORITIES

PROPOSED SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

FEBRUARY 2004



STATE OF WASHINGTON
JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT AND
REVIEW COMMITTEE

STUDY TEAM

Heather Moss
Lisa Jeremiah

LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR

TOM SYKES

Joint Legislative Audit & Review
Committee
506 16th Avenue SE
Olympia, WA 98501-2323
(360) 786-5171
(360) 786-5180 Fax
Website: <http://jlarc.leg.wa.gov>
e-mail: neff_ba@leg.wa.gov

BACKGROUND

JLARC is assessing the state's fiscal reporting, accountability, and performance tracking systems in the 2003-2005 Biennium. To date we have completed four performance and outcome measure reviews:

- **Ecology's** ten major environmental programs (September 2003);
- **Labor and Industries'** performance contracting for vocational rehabilitation services (September 2003);
- **Community, Trade and Economic Development's** economic development and international trade activities (January 2004); and
- **Employment Security's** return-to-work initiatives for unemployment insurance claimants (January 2004).

JLARC's next step will assess how **economic and workforce development activities** of different state agencies are connected and work together. We will use the statewide results that the Office of Financial Management has outlined for improving Washington's overall economic performance as a reference point. In particular, JLARC will examine how agencies collaborate and work together to achieve these statewide economic goals.

STUDY SCOPE

JLARC will look at selected activities of nine state agencies responsible for improving the state's economic vitality. These agencies are anticipated to spend slightly over \$1 billion in 2003-05 on such activities.

- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Community, Trade and Economic Development
- Department of Labor and Industries
- Employment Security Department
- Higher Education Coordinating Board
- Spokane Intercollegiate Research and Technology Institute
- State Board for Community and Technical Colleges
- Washington State Convention and Trade Center
- Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board

STUDY OBJECTIVES

JLARC will first examine **performance measures for individual activities** associated with the three statewide priorities related to economic vitality: (1) improve the quality and productivity of the workforce; (2) improve the value of a state college or university education; and (3) improve the economic vitality of business and individuals. Specifically, this study will

- Assess the connection between the measures for each activity and the high-level indicators for the statewide result areas; and
- Look for similarities in how different state agencies undertake related activities and use performance measures.

The focus of this review is on the body of measures – not the specific measures for any one agency or activity.

The second piece of this study examines **the ways agencies collaborate** to achieve statewide results and measure performance. JLARC will ask the following questions to determine the level of coordination that is occurring or that should occur among agencies and programs:

1. How do state agencies communicate and share their performance data with each other?
2. How do state agencies work with each other to achieve statewide results and improve high-level indicators?
3. How are the results of this collaboration measured?
4. How do agencies collaborate on measuring the results of their shared outcomes?
5. How do these agencies collaborate in the development of their strategic plans to improve Washington's overall economic vitality?

Finally, JLARC will review how other states have adopted and used similar processes. Staff will look at other states with performance-based governing strategies, especially to learn how those strategies have been connected to their legislative processes.

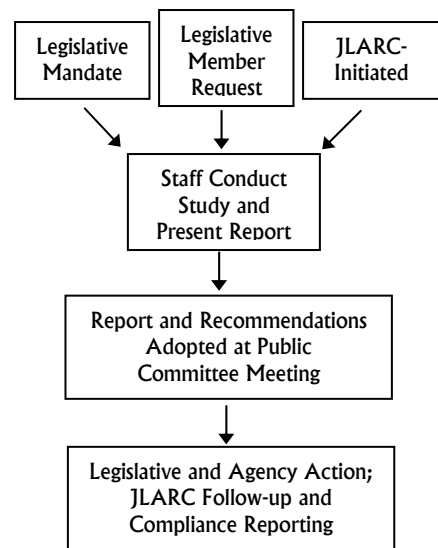
TIMEFRAME FOR THE STUDY

Staff will present a preliminary report at the JLARC meeting in April 2004.

JLARC STAFF CONTACT FOR THE STUDY

| | | |
|---------------|----------------|------------------------|
| Heather Moss | (360) 786-5174 | moss_he@leg.wa.gov |
| Lisa Jeremiah | (360) 786-5293 | jeremiah_li@leg.wa.gov |

JLARC Study Process



Criteria for Establishing JLARC Work Program Priorities

- Is study consistent with JLARC mission? Is it mandated?
- Is this an area of significant fiscal or program impact, a major policy issue facing the state, or otherwise of compelling public interest?
- Will there likely be substantive findings and recommendations?
- Is this the best use of JLARC resources: For example:
- Is the JLARC the most appropriate agency to perform the work?
- Would the study be nonduplicating?
- Would this study be cost-effective compared to other projects (e.g., larger, more substantive studies take longer and cost more, but might also yield more useful results)?
- Is funding available to carry out the project?

